

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

On page 11, line 1, cancel "Claims" and substitute:

**--WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:--** therefor.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

- 5           1.       (Amended) An implantable heart stimulator comprising an AV-interval generator which generates a variable AV- interval and which is provided with a predetermined basic AV-interval, and a counter that counts a number of times the AV-interval is changed during a predetermined time period, said counter generating and applying an output signal to said AV-  
10       interval generator to cause said AV0-interval generator to change said basic AV-interval if said number of times is greater than a predetermined value.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2.       (Amended) A heart stimulator according to claim 1 wherein said AV-interval generator changes the basic AV-interval by an amount in a  
15       range of -30 to 30 milliseconds.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3.       (Amended) A heart stimulator according to claim 2 wherein said AV-interval generator changes the basic AV-interval by -20 ms or +20 ms.

20           Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4.       (Amended) A heart stimulator according to claim 1 wherein said predetermined value is in a range 2-10.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5.       (Amended) A heart stimulator according to claim 1 wherein  
25       said predetermined time period is between 1 and 3 minutes.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6.       (Amended) A heart stimulator according to claim 1 further comprising a control unit provided with a fusion avoidance algorithm.